

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 12356 01 OF 02 111922Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00  
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O 111905Z AUG 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3149  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
CNAPEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 9901

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 12356

EXDIS USCTB

PASS TO DOE

E.O.11652:XGDS-3  
TAGS: PARM US UK UR  
SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: PLENARY SESSION, AUGUST 10

CTB MESSAGE NO.294

1. SUMMARY: AT AUGUST 10 PLENARY SESSION USSR, US AND UK  
DELS PRESENTED SUMMARY REPORTS ON THE WORK OF THE NSS,  
OSI, AND POLITICAL WORKING GROUPS. DURING PLENARY AND  
POST-PLENARY RESTRICTIVE MEETING, PETROSYANTS (USSR)  
EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER PINCUS ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN  
INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE. JOHNSON AND NEIDLE (US)  
TOLD PETROSYANTS THAT ARTICLE WAS MISLEADING AND ASSURED  
HIM THAT US DEL INTENDED TO KEEP TRYING TO MAKE PROGRESS  
IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN PREPARED STATEMENT DELIVERED AT  
PLENARY, PETROSYANTS CLARIFIED SOVIET POSITION ON SEVERAL  
OUTSTANDING ISSUES, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE AMOUNT  
OF WORK ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 12356 01 OF 02 111922Z

OF MAINTAINING THE PACE AND MOMENTUM OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.  
PETROSYANTS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF RESOLVING THE  
ISSUES OF TREATY DURATION AND THE ROLE OF THE REVIEW  
CONFERENCE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. END SUMMARY.

2. AT AUGUST 10 PLENARY SESSION TARASOV (USSR), HECKROTTE  
(US), AND BIRCH (UK) REPORTED BRIEFLY ON THE ACTIVITIES

OF THE NATIONAL SEISMIC STATIONS (NSS), ON-SITE INSPECTION (OSI), AND POLITICAL WORKING GROUPS RESPECTIVELY. REPORTS WERE FACTUAL AND HIGHLIGHTED AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND ISSUES YET TO BE RESOLVED.

3. COMMENTING ON WORK OF OSI GROUP, PETROSYANTS (USSR) SAID THAT THE US AND UK WERE INSISTING ON TOO MUCH DETAIL IN THE SEPARATE AGREEMENT AND APPEARED TO BE "ARTIFICIALLY" SLOWING DOWN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE EXPLANATION FOR THIS COULD BE FOUND IN THE PINCUS ARTICLE (ON CTB) CARRIED IN THE AUGUST 10 INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE. WHAT IS NEEDED IS GREATER EFFORT TO SOLVE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES.

4. JOHNSON (US) REPLIED THAT IN HIS VIEW THERE HAD BEEN NO SLOW-DOWN IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE TIME SPENT ON RESOLVING OUTSTANDING ISSUES HAD PROVED TO BE PROFITABLE AND EFFECTIVE AND WAS THE ONLY WAY TO ACHIEVE THE KIND OF DOCUMENT ALL THE PARTIES WERE TRYING TO PRODUCE. JOHNSON STRESSED THAT THE US DEL INTENDED TO CONTINUE ITS SERIOUS EFFORTS TO COMPLETE THE NEGOTIATIONS.

5. AFTER DISCUSSION ON THE REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS, PETROSYANTS GAVE A PREPARED STATEMENT THAT CONTRASTED IN TONE WITH EARLIER COMMENTS APROPOS PINCUS ARTICLE. HE PRAISED THE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS ALREADY MADE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, EXPRESSED THE SOVIET DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THE SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 GENEVA 12356 01 OF 02 111922Z

PACE AND MOMENTUM OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND CLARIFIED SOVIET VIEWS ON SIGNIFICANT OUTSTANDING ISSUES (FULL TEXT SEPTTEL). ITEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST INCLUDE:

A) ARTICLE I OF THE TREATY: PETROSYANTS SAID THE SOVIETS ATTRIBUTE PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE TO THE FACT THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON LANGUAGE BANNING ANY NUCLEAR WEAPON TEST EXPLOSION IN ANY PLACE AND IN ANY ENVIRONMENT. PETROSYANTS SAID THAT COMPLETE BAN IS THE FUNDAMENTAL CORNERSTONE ON WHICH THE EDIFICE OF THE TREATY RESTS.

B) TREATY DURATION: THE SOVIETS HAD INDICATED THAT THEY WERE PREPARED, IN PRINCIPLE, TO TAKE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE US/UK PROPOSAL FOR FIVE-YEAR DURATION, PROVIDED THE US AND UK TAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE POSITION ON OTHER ISSUES, ESPECIALLY VERIFICATION ISSUES. THE SOVIETS CANNOT AGREE THAT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE A REPLACEMENT TREATY. THE SOVIET POSITION IS THAT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE SHOULD CONSIDER EXTENDING THE TREATY, DEPENDING ON WHETHER NON-PARTIES ARE CONDUCTING NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. PETROSYANTS OBSERVED THAT THE US HAS NOT DEALT WITH THESE "QUESTIONS OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE,"

AND THE USSR BELIEVES IT NECESSARY TO EMPHASIZE "THE  
EXTREMELY GREAT IMPORTANCE OF THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE  
SOLUTION, ON WHICH THE SOVIET UNION HAS DEFINED ITS  
POSITION CLEARLY."

C) OSI RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS: THE SOVIETS ATTACH  
"EXTREMELY GREAT IMPORTANCE" TO FORMULATING RIGHTS AND  
FUNCTIONS IN A GENERAL WAY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE GREAT  
VARIETY OF SITUATIONS WHICH CAN OCCUR IN THE COURSE OF AN  
ON-SITE INSPECTION. AT THE SAME TIME THE SOVIET DRAFT  
TAKES INTO ACCOUNT, TO THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE, THE DESIRE

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 12356 02 OF 02 111925Z  
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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 12356

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OF THE US AND UK TO STATE RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS IN  
SUFFICIENT DETAIL TO PRECLUDE A POSSIBILITY OF ANY MIS-  
UNDERSTANDING IN THE COURSE OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON OSIS.

D) NATIONAL SEISMIC STATIONS: SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO  
PROVIDE FOR "FURTHER DEVELOPMENT" OF MEANS OF SEISMIC  
VERIFICATION AND TO INCORPORATE THIS UNDERSTANDING INTO  
THE AGREEMENT. PETROSYANTS STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT  
FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SEISMIC VERIFICATION MEANS CANNOT  
BE BASED ON ONE SET OF EQUIPMENT WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN  
DEVELOPED. "AND IF SOMEONE STILL HARBORS ILLUSIONS THAT  
THE IMPROVED SEISMIC EQUIPMENT MUST OF NECESSITY BEAR THE  
TRADEMARK OF SOME SPECIFIC LABORATORY, COMPANY, OR EVEN  
OF SOME SPECIFIC COUNTRY, I AM CERTAIN THAT THIS WOULD  
NOT BE PRODUCTIVE FOR THE SUCCESS OF OUR COMMON CAUSE..."

E) MORATORIUM: PETROSYANTS SAID THE PROTOCOL "MUST BE BASED ON THE PROPOSAL ... FOR ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM." IF A MORATORIUM ON PNES WAS INCORPORATED INTO THE TEXT OF THE PROTOCOL, AGREEMENT ON OTHER PORTIONS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 12356 02 OF 02 111925Z

OF THE PROTOCOL "WOULD NOT POSE INSURMOUNTABLE DIFFICULTIES."

6. IN THE RESTRICTED MEETING FOLLOWING THE PLENARY, PETROSYANTS SAID THAT IMPORTANT AND SERIOUS WORK HAD BEEN DONE WHICH WAS VALUABLE FOR THE TREATY, AND HE EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE THAT THE WORK BE CONTINUED. HE AGAIN EXPRESSED ANXIETIES OVER THE PINCUS ARTICLE. BOTH JOHNSON AND NEIDLE EXPLAINED AT LENGTH THAT PRESS STORIES SUCH AS THIS WERE MISLEADING AND UNRELIABLE, AND THAT THE US DEL WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO PROCEED EXPEDITIOUSLY WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WAS TRYING TO DO SO. JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

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